

# Bassett High School Student Handbook



85 Riverside Drive  
Bassett, Virginia 24055  
Phone (276) 629-1731  
Fax (276) 629- 8221

School Colors  
Mascot  
School Hours

Blue and Orange  
Bengal  
7:30 AM – 4:00 PM

## Administrative Staff

Mr. Michael Minter, Jr.  
Ms. Candace Boyd  
Mrs. Anna Carlton  
Mr. Eric Seiy

Principal  
Assistant Principal  
Assistant Principal  
Assistant Principal

# School Board Members

**Mr. Teddy Martin II**, Chairperson, Reed Creek District

**Mr. Ben Gravely**, Vice Chairperson, Iriswood District

**Mr. Thomas Auker**, Blackberry District

**Mrs. Stephanie Brinegar**, Horsepasture District

**Mr. Champ Hardie**, Ridgeway District

**Mrs. Elizabeth Durden**, Collinsville District

**Mrs. Cherie Whitlow**, Member-At-Large

## HENRY COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS

### VISION

Henry County Public Schools: where critical thinking is expected, creativity is nurtured, technology and innovation are embraced, and learning is celebrated.

### MISSION

Henry County Public Schools, a high-performing school division, provides all students with an exemplary education in a safe, supportive environment that promotes self-discipline, motivation, and excellence.

## **GENERAL SCHOOL INFORMATION**

### **BELL SCHEDULES**

(If school is delayed for any reason, the daily schedule will be posted. In the case of inclement weather, students are reminded not to call the school for information. Announcements will be made through Instant Alert, as well as on local radio and television stations.)

8:10	Dismissal to Class
8:20	Five Minute Warning/End of Breakfast
8:25	Tardy Bell

8:25-10:00	First Block
10:05-11:35	Second Block
11:40-1:50	Third Block (Lunch)
1:55-3:25	Fourth Block

### **LUNCH**

11:35-12:05	First Lunch
12:10-12:40	Second Lunch
12:45-1:15	Third Lunch
1:20-1:50	Fourth Lunch

### **BUILDING HOURS**

The building is open to students from 7:30 AM until 4:00 PM. Only those involved in school activities and under the supervision of school personnel may be in school prior to 7:30 AM or after 4:00 PM. Students are subject to school rules at all times, and **any student caught in an unsupervised area is subject to disciplinary consequences.**

### **EARLY ARRIVALS**

The entire building is closed to students prior to 7:30 AM. The Media Center is open to students at 8:05 AM with an appropriate pass. Students who drive, ride the bus, or are dropped off by parents must enter the building immediately and report to the proper location. Loitering outside is not allowed.

### **EARLY DISMISSAL**

Students should attend all classes unless excused by an administrator. Students may not leave school grounds unless dismissed with a parent, or with written permission. Notes written by parents must contain a phone number for the purpose of verification. All students must sign out in the attendance office before leaving. **Requests for an early dismissal must be approved by school authorities before the first bell in the morning.** Leaving school for personal business is discouraged. Students who sign out must exit the building immediately through the main doors only. Those who have more than three early dismissals from the same class during a marking period must have parents contact an administrator before the fourth and subsequent dismissals are approved.

### **STUDENT SIGN OUT**

In effort to maintain a safe and efficient front office, students may not be checked out of school after 3:00 PM.

### **CHANGE OF ADDRESS**

Any change of address or phone number during the school year must be reported to the attendance office to ensure that proper communication may be maintained with the home.

### **COMMUNICATION BETWEEN PARENTS AND FACULTY AND STAFF MEMBERS**

Faculty and staff members will communicate with parents during the school year as the need arises. Contacts will be made in the form of phone calls, letters or conferences to notify parents of achievements, improvement, or possible areas of concern. Progress or interim reports, and report cards are important ways of providing timely and meaningful information that represent a school-wide effort to work together cooperatively. Parents have access to grades through the Parent Portal of the student information system. Log in requires a password which is available through the guidance department. Upon presenting a picture ID, parents will be given a password and directions for navigating through the Parent Portal. Information can be found on the school website and each teacher maintains a Canvas page.

### **COURSE**

Without exception, students are required to remain in school four blocks unless enrolled in an early release program. No schedule changes will be made after school begins except those to accommodate failures, or administrative errors or concerns.

**FIRE DRILLS & EMERGENCY PROCEDURES**

Fire and emergency drills are held at intervals throughout the school year. A loud, steady, beeping tone identifies the fire alarm. Upon its activation, the following regulations are in effect:

1. Everyone must evacuate the building immediately.
2. Students are to walk in an orderly fashion without crowding or yelling.
3. Students in restrooms are to join the nearest line of exiting students.
4. Students are to exit the building in double lines.
5. Students are to stay with their class as they exit and enter the building.
6. Students are to remain outside the building until the all-clear bell rings or until they receive word from their teacher for them to return to their respective classrooms.

Periodically, tornado and lockdown drills will be conducted. Specific instructions and guidelines will be given to students by their classroom teachers prior to the actual drills.

**A reminder to all students: Tampering with the Fire Alarm System is considered a criminal offense. Offenders will be punished accordingly.**

**GRADING SCALE**

LETTER GRADE	NUMBER RANGE	HCPS Courses	DE/AP Courses
A+	100-97	4.0	5.0
A	96-93	4.0	5.0
A-	92-90	3.7	4.7
B+	89-87	3.3	4.3
B	86-83	3.0	4.0
B-	82-80	2.7	3.7
C+	79-77	2.3	3.3
C	76-73	2.0	3.0
C-	72-70	1.7	2.7
D+	69-68	1.3	2.3
D	67-66	1.0	2.0
D-	65-60	.7	1.7
F	59-0	0	0

**GRADING SYSTEM AND HONOR ROLL**

Each term three types of honor rolls are prepared.

- |                |                 |
|----------------|-----------------|
| A Honor Roll   | All A's         |
| A/B Honor Roll | All A's and B's |
| B Honor Roll   | All B's         |

A grade of "C" in citizenship in any one class will prevent students from making the honor roll.

**GRADUATION EXERCISES REQUIREMENTS**

1. All fees must be paid in order for a senior to participate in the graduation ceremony.
2. A senior must participate in the complete graduation rehearsal in order to participate in graduation exercises.
3. No final transcript or evidence of graduation will be sent to colleges or employers for a senior who owes fees.

**GRADUATE OF DISTINCTION**

The following criteria will need to be met by each student:

- **Academic:**

- o Cumulative grade point average of 3.8 or higher or,
- o Score 1250 or higher on SAT using any two of the subtests, or at least 700 on any one of the subtests or,
- o Score 28 or higher on the ACT composite score or,
- o Earn a state or national academic award/office and 3.5 GPA
- **Service-Learning or Volunteering:**
  - o Student will have to complete at least 40 hours
- **Extra-curricular School Activities:**
  - o Students will be expected to participate in a minimum of two activities during their junior or senior year

Students will be recognized with a plaque or similar item, dinner/reception. The school board, administration, and parents will be invited to this event.

### **SCHOOL COUNSELING DEPARTMENT**

There are four qualified counselors assigned to Bassett High School. Students are encouraged to schedule periodic times to meet with their school counselor to map out graduation plans, to discuss post-secondary plans, or to simply hold individual conferences as deemed necessary by a student, parent, teacher or administrator. Additional services are provided by a Career Coach from Patrick Henry Community College and the University of Virginia College Guide.

### **INSURANCE**

Student insurance can be purchased at a reasonable cost. Some vocational classes require students to show proof of insurance coverage. For those participating in sports or vocational activities school insurance is an affordable option.

### **MEDIA CENTER PROCEDURES**

The media center is for the use of all students and faculty of Bassett High School. It provides an environment for individual study, small groups, and classes. Use of the facility is greatly encouraged. The hours are from 8:10 AM until 3:30 PM each school day. All materials in the media center must be properly signed out. Media Center check-out are; 21 days for books or overnight for reference materials and magazines.

Faculty members may issue e-hall passes for students to go to the media center. Time will be recorded on e-hall Pass indicating dismissal time and time of admittance to the library. The use of the media center is a privilege, which can be taken away if abused. The media center staff insists that students conduct themselves in a quiet and orderly manner while in the media center. No food or drink is allowed in the media center at any time.

### **LOST AND FOUND**

Articles found by students should be delivered to the main office. Students should report the loss of all articles to their teachers at the time the loss is discovered so that an attempt may be made to locate the items. If the articles are not located, the loss should be reported to an administrator. Articles found and not claimed will be donated to charity.

### **MEDICAL EMERGENCY**

Student medical emergencies should be reported immediately to the school nurse who will determine course of action. Accidents or injuries that occur while students are enroute to school should be reported as quickly as possible. Students who become ill during class should be sent to the nurses' office with permission from the classroom teacher. School officials will notify parents and/or rescue squad as the situation demands. First aid supplies are available for minor injuries. There are no provisions for students to lie down or receive medical attention at school.

### **RECORDING GRADES FOR REPEATED COURSES**

If a student repeats a previously failed course, the failing grade remains on the record, and the grade earned in the repeat course is added to the record. If a student repeats a course in which a passing grade has previously been received, the higher of the two grades will be recorded on the record.

### **SCHOOL NUTRITION PROGRAMS**

The Henry County Schools' Nutrition Programs participate in the federally funded School Breakfast Program (SBP) and National School Lunch Program (NSLP), providing nutritionally balanced, low-cost or free breakfasts and lunches to students each school day. Our programs meet federal nutrition standards, which have been modified to reflect the Institute of Medicine recommendations that were adopted for the Healthy, Hunger-Free Kids Act.

A universal free breakfast program, called "Fast Break for Success" is offered in all Henry County schools. The School Breakfast Program (SBP) offers a wide variety of healthy foods, and meets the new requirements for School Year 2015. Research has shown that students who eat a healthy breakfast do better in school. They also take in more vitamins and minerals, eat less fat and cholesterol, have less chance of becoming overweight and tend to have better overall health. Breakfast is offered every day school is in session with the exception of days when opening is delayed by two (2) hours. Breakfast is served if there is a one (1) hour delay.

Studies have shown that students who participate in the National School Lunch Program (NSLP) have higher average intakes of essential nutrients, consume meals that are lower in fat and added sugars and contain more variety of food choices than meals brought from home. High school students have more meal lines and options available than middle school. A la carte options have also increased in variety over middle school. The NSLP eligible meal is free to all students in Henry County Schools under the Community Eligibility Program, regardless of financial status.

Students are not permitted to leave school grounds during lunch periods. Parents should not deliver lunch to students at school. All students are required to be in the cafeteria during their assigned lunch block. Students are to report to the cafeteria immediately when the correct bell rings. Restrooms closest to the cafeteria should be used. Lingering in the hallways will not be allowed because the excess noise disrupts instruction. Students are to assist with keeping the dining rooms neat at all times. Trays and paper products are to be deposited at the clean-up counter.

**All breakfast and lunch meals are free to HCPS students under the Community Eligibility Program.** There is no paperwork or application process needed. Menus are available on the Henry County Schools' website along with nutritional analysis for each menu item.

**Meal Pricing for 2023-2024:**

Student breakfast – free, regardless of financial status	Adult breakfast - \$2.75
Student lunch - free	Adult lunch - \$4.65
	Extra Milk - \$0.45

**Parents are provided with several options to make advance payments for their child's (extra) meals:**

- **SchoolCafe** – access anytime to make payments online is available with this service. Go to <https://www.schoolcafe.com/HENRYCPS> and enroll your student(s) by following the instructions provided. You will need your student's full Henry County School ID number. All fees associated with the use of this site are paid by Henry County School Nutrition. Methods of payment: Visa, MasterCard, Bank Debit Card. Money can be put on an account to be used by your student to purchase extra menu items or a la carte items.
- **Advance Payment** – make one payment for a week or more of meals by cash or check. Please write your student's name in the "memo" line of any checks.

**\*Please Note** – SchoolCafe can be used to track your student's cafeteria account balance/purchase history even if you use another method of advance payment. Set up an account for your student as specified above.

**Advantages to making advance payments through the school or SchoolCafe:**

- Eliminates remembering snack money every day.
- Teaches your student the importance of managing an account and its balance.
- Removes temptation to spend snack money elsewhere.
- Removes sanitary concerns of handling money immediately prior to eating.

## **STUDENT COUNCIL ASSOCIATION**

The Student Council Association allows students to assume responsibilities related to the governance of the high school. It creates a forum in which problems or questions arising from either the students or the administration can be presented for discussion and consideration.

The Student Council Association's purposes are as follows:

1. To unify student activities and promote and help execute the activities of the school
2. To aid in the internal administration of the school
3. To allow students to participate in the democratic process.

Representative elections are held in the fall.

## **TELEPHONE**

Parents and students should make necessary arrangements for rides, appointments, etc., before the student leaves home. Phone messages from parents or guardians will be taken for students only in cases of extreme emergencies as deemed by the office. If a student tells a teacher that he or she is ill, the teacher should send the student to the nurse for evaluation, not to the office to make a telephone call.

## **TEXTBOOKS**

Textbooks and workbooks are issued without cost to the student for use during the school year. These books are to be kept clean and handled carefully. If a book is damaged or lost, the student will be required to make restitution.

## **VISITORS**

All visitors must report directly to the main office, sign in and secure a visitor's pass. The visitor's pass must be worn at all times. Students should not bring friends, siblings, relatives, etc., as visitors to school.

## **VOLUNTEERS**

Volunteers are needed and welcomed at Bassett. Periodically throughout the year Volunteer Information sessions are held. Anyone interested in volunteering should contact the school for information on background checks and procedures and guidelines as outlined by Henry County Public Schools.

# **STUDENT CONDUCT**

## **CODE OF CONDUCT**

In order to have an atmosphere conducive to learning and to ensure the safety of all students, a certain general standard of behavior is required. Refer to [Henry County Schools' Student Code of Conduct](#) for specific rules and regulations governing behavior.

## **CONSEQUENCES FOR RULE VIOLATIONS**

Failure to comply with the regulations and codes will result in school disciplinary action including, but not limited to, parental conferences, internal suspension, probation, external suspension or expulsion.

## **ASSEMBLIES**

At all times, student behavior should be refined and courteous. An indication of the cultural level of the school is the conduct of its student body at an assembly. Whether guests are present or not, each student is personally responsible for the impression made by the school as a whole. Unacceptable conduct would include whistling, inappropriate clapping, boisterousness, and talking during a program. Students are to report promptly to the auditorium or gymnasium for all assembly programs. They are to sit in their assigned seats unless the assembly is one in which an admission price has been charged. **Misbehavior will not be tolerated, and the offending student(s) will be removed from the auditorium or gymnasium and not allowed to attend future assemblies.**

## **ATTENDANCE POLICY**

Students are expected to arrive at school and all classes on time every day. It is the legal responsibility of parents or guardians to ensure that students are in regular daily attendance for the entire school day. Parents or guardians are encouraged to contact the school if their child is going to be absent from school. When a student is going to be absent for extended periods of illness, a parent or guardian must seek homebound instruction for a child.

A student who is absent from school for an entire day, or for one or more class periods, must bring a note written and signed by a parent or guardian upon returning to school. **The note shall contain the reason(s) for and the date(s) of the absence(s).** The principal will be the judge of the validity of any excuses. Students are considered present when participating in field trips and other functions sanctioned by the school. **Middle and high school students who are not physically present for at least fifty percent (50%) of a class period will be deemed absent and must provide an excuse for the absence.**

When a student in grades 9-12 accumulates the equivalent of ten (10) absences not attributable to a death in the immediate family, a subpoenaed court appearance, a verified chronic medical condition, school sponsored activities, or pre-arranged absences with the principal or designee, the principal or designee shall convene the attendance review panel. The student may not be eligible for credit or promotion if the equivalent of ten unexcused (10) absences accumulate. In addition to Policy JED, Henry County Public Schools expectation for secondary students is that cumulative individual class absences in excess of five (5) days every ninety (90) days of instruction / semester shall also result in loss of credit. An appeal may be made in writing to the building principal if the absences in excess of two days were for extenuating circumstances.

Responsibility for make-up work lies with the student. **Arrangements for make-up work must be completed within three (3) days after returning to school. Students who skip a class may be required to make up work; however, the student may not receive full credit for the completion of such work.** This will not apply to assignments such as unit tests, term papers, or other long-term projects which extend beyond the day(s) the student skipped class.

Students are expected to attend all assigned classes every day. Students are not to leave the building without permission. Students who leave the school grounds during the school day before their usual dismissal time must first have parental permission and approval from the administration. Students who are ill or injured must report to the office before leaving the building unless the nature of the illness or injury prohibits this.

**Complete attendance guidelines can be found in the *Henry County Code of Conduct*.**

## **TARDY POLICY**

Promptness to school and class is very important. Students are expected to be in their seats and ready for class when the tardy bell sounds. Chronic tardiness is detrimental to both the student coming to school or to class late, and to the remainder of the class which is interrupted by late arrivals. Tardiness is not acceptable behavior and the following consequences will be used by the administration:

**Second Tardy** - Warning from teacher and parent contact

**Third Tardy** - Warning from teacher and referral to guidance counselor

**Fourth Tardy** - Referral to administration for disciplinary action

Repeat offense consequences will be determined by an administrator and may require a suspension until a parent conference with an administrator. Student drivers who violate this policy are in danger of losing their campus driving privileges.

## **BUS REGULATIONS**

Students who come to school on the bus should return home on the same bus unless they have a note from a parent signed by the principal. Riding the school bus is a privilege. Improper conduct will result in that privilege being denied. Only regularly scheduled students are to ride the school buses. Riders should report immediately to the buses in the afternoon. A note to ride a different bus must be presented to the attendance secretary prior to the start of the first block and must include a telephone number where a parent can be reached to verify accuracy.

## **CHEATING**

Cheating includes the actual giving or receiving of any unauthorized aid or assistance or the actual giving or receiving of unfair advantage on any form of academic work.

## **MISREPRESENTATION**

Misrepresentation is the altering or forging of any school record, official document, note, and/or signature.

## **PLAGIARISM**

Plagiarism includes the copying of the language, structure, idea and/or thought of another and representing it as one's own original work. Unauthorized use of technology and information gained through its use without permission is prohibited, as specified in computer guidelines. Student files may be subject to search.

## **DRUGS AND ALCOHOL**

The possession, use, or sale of alcohol or controlled drugs on the grounds of BHS either during school hours or at after-school functions will result in the maximum punishment allowed by the Henry County School Board. Henry County law enforcement officials will be contacted in all drug-related offenses. A student's appearance at school or school functions under the influence of controlled or illegal substances will result in similar application of this regulation.

## **TOBACCO/SMOKING POLICY**

In conjunction with the Virginia State Law 15.1-291.2 and the Henry County School Board Smoking Policy, Bassett High School prohibits the use (lighting, chewing, inhaling, or smoking) or possession of any tobacco products (e-cigarettes and vapor products) on campus or in association with any extra-curricular or instructional day activity. **Any offense will automatically result in three days or more of out of school suspension.** Referrals may be made to the Henry County Sheriff's Department where charges may be filed. Counseling at local agencies may also be encouraged.

## **CORRIDOR CONDUCT**

1. Congregating or "hanging out" in corridors between classes is not allowed. It prevents the smooth flow of traffic. Everyone must have easy access to and from class. To avoid tardiness, students should proceed directly to their next class.
2. Food and drinks with the exception of water are not allowed in corridors or in classrooms during school hours. Water must be in clear containers.
3. Students in corridors during class blocks must have a proper pass issued by a teacher or staff member. The recognized pass is an e-Hall pass in addition to the classroom hall pass.
4. Loud or boisterous behavior, running, or other forms of distracting or inconsiderate behavior in the corridors will result in disciplinary action.
5. Intersections and hallways are not to be blocked at any time.

## **DANCES, SOCIAL FUNCTIONS, AND ATHLETIC EVENTS**

There is one annual school sponsored dance (Prom). Students in middle school, junior high school, and anyone 21 years of age or older are not allowed to attend. Guests must be in good standing if invited from another school. Students are not allowed to attend the prom if fees are owed. No one will be permitted to leave an event and re-enter the same event. Students are under school jurisdiction at all extra-curricular activities, including those at other schools.

Students under suspension are not allowed to attend after-school activities of any type. In addition, the student may forfeit the right to attend other school functions if the student code of conduct is violated.

## **HENRY COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOL DRESS STANDARD FOR HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS**

It is the desire of Henry County Public Schools to establish a learning environment free from unnecessary risks and distractions where all students are able to achieve at their highest potential. The personal appearance of every student is an important component of establishing an environment for optimal learning and respect for one another. Students are expected to adhere to standards of dress and appearance that are compatible with an effective learning environment. In support of these expectations, the following dress standard will be enforced:

- All shirts/tops must at least cover the student's navel. Tank tops should not reveal undergarments or inappropriate body parts.
- Shirts and dresses should not expose inappropriate body parts, including cleavage.
- Clothing with logos that express obscenities, convey messages of a violent or a sexual nature, or advertise or condone drugs, alcohol, or cigarette products will not be permitted.
- Clothing that is perceived to be racially offensive or can be predicted to be a disruption to the educational process will not be permitted.
- Mesh or see-through clothing is not permitted (males and females) unless a solid fabric is worn underneath.
- All pants, shorts, and skirts must be worn over the hips. Waistlines that sag and expose one's undergarments or underlayer of clothing are not acceptable.
- Garments with holes or distress marks above the knee may violate the dress standard when they are determined to be excessive in size or inappropriate in their placement (at the discretion of a school administrator).
- Tight fitting pants, which may include but are not limited to: leggings, jeggings, tights, biker shorts, spandex, etc., should neither be sheer, nor deemed inappropriate by school officials.
- The outer garment of clothing worn must always be in compliance with the dress code.
- Bedroom attire is not permitted.
- Shoes should be appropriate for travel within the building; "heely" shoes (shoes with built-in wheels) are not permitted.
- Headcoverings may not be worn in school buildings without permission granted by school administration. Exceptions include (but are not limited to): religious observances, medical reasons, etc.
- Wallet chains/chains hanging from clothing or spiked jewelry are not permitted.
- Items not previously mentioned, but deemed inappropriate by the administration, will not be permitted.
- If an extenuating circumstance arises, modifications to the dress standard may be granted by the administration.

***As a reminder, this dress standard is not an exhaustive list. Students in violation of the dress standard will be required to change into appropriate clothing. Any questions regarding student dress should be addressed with school administration.***

## **CELL PHONES**

All use of personal electronic devices such as: cellular telephones, smart watches, smart devices, electronic games, and other forms of electronic communication tools are prohibited from the start of the instructional day, to the end of the instructional day. High school students may use their devices during their corresponding breakfast/lunch and in the hallway during transition times if deemed appropriate by school administration.

**First Offense (Option #1):**

If the student complies, the electronic device will be confiscated at the time of incident and turned over to administration. The electronic device will be in the office until a parent can pick it up (no sooner than the end of the school day).

#### **First Offense (Option #2):**

If the student refuses to comply with a staff member's request to relinquish the electronic device, the student receives a 3 day out of school suspension.

#### **Second Offense (Option #1):**

If the student complies, the electronic device will be confiscated at the time of incident and turned over to administration. The electronic device will be in the office until a parent can pick it up (no sooner than the end of the school day), and the student receives 1 day in-school suspension.

#### **Second Offense (Option #2):**

If the student refuses to comply with a staff member's request to relinquish the electronic device, the student receives a 3 day out of school suspension.

#### **Third Offense and Thereafter:**

The student receives a 3 day out of school suspension.

**The School and/or school system will not be responsible for the loss of electronic devices from lockers, book bags, or any other location on school property. In case of illness, students should report to the nurse's office. If necessary, the nurse will contact parents; students should not use cell phones to make arrangements to be picked up from school.**

#### **AIRPODS/EARBUDS**

Headphones of any sort are considered the same as cell phones and are not to be used during the instructional day unless used as part of instruction.

#### **FIGHTING**

Students involved in fighting **may be suspended up to 10 days**, and a referral to the Henry County Juvenile Intake Office may be made. Verbal confrontations may also result in out of school suspension.

#### **GAMBLING**

A student shall not bet money or other items of value or knowingly play or participate in a game involving such a bet on school property or during any school related activity. Card playing on school grounds is prohibited.

#### **GANG ACTIVITY**

Students shall not engage in gang activity on school grounds, on school buses or on any school sponsored activity. A gang is defined as any group of two or more persons whose purpose includes:

- commission of illegal acts;
- participation in activities that threaten the safety of persons or property;
- disruption of the school activities; or
- creation of an atmosphere of fear and intimidation.

Students shall be subject to disciplinary action for participating in gang activity. Gang activity is defined as:

- wearing, using, distributing, displaying, or selling any clothing, jewelry, emblem, badge, symbol, sign, or other items that is evidence of membership or affiliation in any gang;
- committing any act or omission, or using any speech, either verbal or non-verbal (such as gestures or hand-shakes) showing membership or affiliation in a gang;
- using any speech or committing any act or omission in furtherance of the interests of any gang, including: (a) soliciting, hazing and initiating others for membership in any gang, (b) requesting any person to pay protection or otherwise intimidating or threatening any person, (c) committing any other illegal act or other violation of school policy and (d) inciting other students to act with physical violence;
- inappropriate congregating, bullying, harassment, intimidation, degradation, disgrace and/or related activities, which are likely to cause bodily danger, physical harm, or mental harm to students, employees or visitors.

## **HALL PASSES**

Students should be in the halls only at the beginning and close of school and while moving from one class to another unless they have special permission or special duties that require them to be there. All students should use e-hall passes in addition to the classroom hallpasses to move throughout the building during instructional time. The 15-15 rule will be enforced throughout the school day. Students will not be permitted to leave a class during the first fifteen minutes or the last fifteen minutes of instruction.

## **HARASSMENT**

Any form of harassment or bullying should be reported immediately. There is no tolerance for such behavior and strict adherence to the policy will be followed. Retaliation against anyone reporting or thought to have reported such an offense is strictly prohibited. On the other hand, false charges of sexual harassment shall be treated as a serious offense. All reported incidents will follow procedures detailed in Board Policy JFHA/GBA.

## **BULLYING**

According to the National School Safety Center, bullying is a euphemism for activities committed by youths that, if committed by adults, would be considered criminal. Bullying may include the following: assault, battery, extortion, false imprisonment, hazing, larceny, robbery, theft, or threats. Any student may report bullying, drugs, alcohol, or other incidents by sending an email to [publicinformation@henry.k12.va.us](mailto:publicinformation@henry.k12.va.us) or using the feedback tab on any Henry County Public Schools webpage.

## **PUBLIC DISPLAY OF AFFECTION**

Public displays of affection (PDA) on school grounds are prohibited (i.e. kissing, hugging, etc.). Offenders will be subject to appropriate disciplinary action.

## **MONEY MAKING PROJECTS**

Any fundraising activity, including but not limited to the sale of raffle tickets, candy, gum, or other food items, for personal gain or for outside organizations is prohibited.

## **STUDENT DRIVERS/PARKING**

Students who drive to school may park their cars in the student parking lot in areas designated. Several spaces in the student parking lot and the front of the building are reserved for faculty, staff, and administrators. Improperly parked cars may be ticketed by the police or towed at the owner's expense. Please note the following:

1. After students have arrived, the parking lot is off limits. Any student in the parking lot without permission is subject to disciplinary action.
2. Students are not permitted to socialize with visitors in cars at any time during the school day.
3. All cars driven by students onto the BHS campus must be properly registered in the main office and have the registration decal properly displayed. Failure to comply with this regulation may result in the forfeit of a student's privilege to park on school property.
4. All student drivers should drive with extreme care on the grounds and observe all laws.
5. Trash and litter should not be thrown from cars onto parking areas.
6. BHS cannot assume liability for theft or vandalism. Cars should be kept locked.
7. **Tardiness to first block class may result in a student's campus driving privileges being revoked.**
8. Violations of any of the above may result in the loss of campus parking privileges.
9. Student vehicles may not display flags or any items that may be offensive in nature while on school property.
10. Students may not exceed 5 mph while driving on campus. Failure to comply may result in disciplinary action.

## **STUDENT SEARCH**

Lockers and other storage facilities made available to students for their personal possessions remain under the control of the school administration. The school administration has the right to search lockers, desks, and other storage facilities for items which violate law, school policies and regulations, or which may be harmful to the school or other students. Vehicles parked on school property are subject to being searched at any time.

## **SUBSTITUTE TEACHERS**

Substitute teachers have the same authority as the regular classroom teachers and should be accorded the same respect.

## **THREATS OR INTIMIDATION**

Students are not allowed to make cyber, verbal, written or physical threats of bodily injury or use force for the purpose of extortion or intimidation.

## **TRESPASSING**

Students who arrive at school before the building opens or remain after the close of the school day without specific need or appropriate authorization and supervision may be considered trespassers. Any student who is requested by an administrator to leave school property is expected to do so immediately. Failure to do so may be considered trespassing. Students are not to make unauthorized visits to any other Henry County School during the instructional day. They may be charged with trespassing.

## **VANDALISM AND PROPERTY DAMAGE**

Students who deliberately destroy or vandalize school property will be required to pay for losses or damages. Accidental damage should be reported immediately.

# **STUDENT ACTIVITIES**

## **ACE/GOVERNOR'S SCHOOL**

Students may apply to ACE or Governor's School during the winter of their sophomore year. The selection process is very competitive; therefore, students should maintain exemplary academic, attendance, and discipline records. Student SOL scores, PSAT scores, teacher recommendations, and GPA are all considered during the selection process. In addition, students must have successfully completed Algebra II. Please refer to the [Henry County High School Program of Studies](#) for more information.

## **THE NATIONAL BETA CLUB**

The National Beta Club is a student-centered organization which develops and nurtures individuals by providing opportunities and experiences enabling them to demonstrate the ideals of character, achievement, honesty, cooperation, responsibility, industriousness, humility, charity, service and leadership at Bassett High School and in their community.

## **PARTICIPATION IN SPORTS**

Physical examinations are required before students can participate in sports, including practice time. In addition, eligibility rules must be met. Athletics promotes good citizenship, teamwork, sportsmanship, character development and healthy living.

## **ATHLETIC ELIGIBILITY**

Any student wishing to participate in a sport must have a physical form, insurance information, and a Henry County Athletic Code of Conduct form on file. Physicals must be dated on or after May 1 of the current school year and are valid until June 30 of the succeeding year. School insurance is available for purchase if needed.

To be academically eligible for participation, students must pass three out of four subjects for credit the preceding semester (i.e. a student wishing to play football or volleyball in the Fall needs to have passed at least three subjects the preceding Spring). In addition, students must pass three out of four subjects each grading period to maintain eligibility. If a student fails more than one course in a grading period, then the student is eligible to practice only and will return to active (game) status if s/he is passing three out of four courses at the interim of the grading period.

Students who enter the ninth grade for the first time are automatically eligible for the first semester they enter high school; following the first semester, s/he must pass three out of four classes to remain eligible for a Winter/Spring sport. [NOTE: a student who begins participation in a Winter sport MUST pass at least three courses in the first semester to remain eligible in that Winter sport for the second semester.] Students who transfer to Bassett High and wish to participate in an athletic event must meet the requirements of the VHSL (Virginia High School League) Transfer Rule, Scholarship Rule, and Enrollment Rule.

# **NOTIFICATIONS**

## **AHERA NOTIFICATION CONCERNING ASBESTOS MATERIALS IN SCHOOL BUILDINGS**

All Henry County Schools have been inspected for the presence of asbestos containing materials. The results of these inspections have been compiled into a management plan for each school. These management plans are available in the main office of each school for inspection. Any individual who wishes may review these plans. Each six months, a specified maintenance technician inspects the building and assesses any building materials still containing asbestos. The technician verifies that the materials have not been damaged, deteriorated, or become friable by any other means

causing a hazard to the occupants of the building. Should any situation be detected, it would be dealt with quickly by a trained and licensed abatement professional. Additionally, each three years, an independent contractor, who is trained and licensed in asbestos inspections and abatement, is employed to inspect each school to ensure the asbestos containment and that the removal plans are being followed. Also, this contractor reports any building materials containing asbestos that might become a hazard.

### **FAMILY EDUCATIONAL RIGHTS AND PRIVACY ACT (FERPA)**

The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) affords parents and students over 18 years of age (“eligible students”) certain rights with respect to the student’s education records. These rights are:

1. The right to inspect and review the student’s education records within 45 days of the day the School receives a request for access. Parents or eligible students should submit to the School principal [or appropriate school official] a written request that identifies the record(s) they wish to inspect. The School official will make arrangements for access and notify the parent or eligible student of the time and place where the records may be inspected.
2. The right to request the amendment of the student’s education records that the parent or eligible student believes are inaccurate or misleading. Parents or eligible students may ask the School to amend a record that they believe is inaccurate or misleading. They should write to the School principal [or appropriate official], clearly identify the part of the record they want changed, and specify why it is inaccurate or misleading. If the School decides not to amend the record as requested by the parent or eligible student, the School will notify the parent or eligible student of the decision and advise them of their right to a hearing regarding the request for amendment. Additional information regarding the hearing procedures will be provided to the parent or eligible student when notified of the right to a hearing.
3. The right to consent to disclosures of personally identifiable information contained in the student’s education records, except to the extent that FERPA authorizes disclosure without consent. One exception, which permits disclosure without consent, is disclosure to school officials with legitimate educational interests. A school official is a person employed by the School as an administrator, supervisor, instructor, or support staff member (including health or medical staff and law enforcement unit personnel); a person serving on the School Board; a person or company with whom the School has contracted to perform a special task (such as an attorney, auditor, medical consultant, or therapist); or a parent or student serving on an official committee, such as a disciplinary or grievance committee, or assisting another school official in performing his or her tasks. A school official has a legitimate educational interest if the official needs to review an education record in order to fulfill his or her professional responsibility. Upon request, Schools disclose education records without consent to officials of another school district in which a student seeks or intends to enroll.
4. The right to file a complaint with the U. S. Department of Education concerning alleged failures by the School to comply with the requirements of FERPA. The name and address of the Office that administers FERPA are:

**Family Policy Compliance Office  
U. S. Department of Education  
400 Maryland Avenue, SW  
Washington, DC 20202**

### **NOTICE FOR DIRECTORY INFORMATION**

The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA), a Federal law, requires that Henry County, with certain exceptions, obtain your written consent prior to the disclosure of personally identifiable information from your child’s education records. However, Henry

County may disclose appropriately designated “directory information” without written consent, unless you have advised the District to the contrary in accordance with District procedures. The primary purpose of directory information is to allow Henry County to

include this type of information from your child’s education records in certain school publications. Examples include:

- A playbill, showing your student’s role in a drama production;
- The annual yearbook;
- Honor roll or other recognition lists;
- Web Sites;
- Graduation programs; and
- Sports activity sheets, such as for wrestling, showing weight and height of team members.

Directory information, which is information that is generally not considered harmful or an invasion of privacy if released, will not be disclosed to outside organizations without a parent’s prior written consent. Outside organizations include, but are not limited to, companies that manufacture class rings or publish yearbooks. In addition, two federal laws allow

local educational agencies (LEAs) receiving assistance under the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (ESEA) to provide military recruiters, upon request, with three directory information categories – names, addresses and telephone listings - when parents or eligible students have provided consent to the LEA for the disclosure of directory information. Parents and eligible students have a right to refuse to designate any or all information about the student as directory information and may exercise this right within the first twenty days of the school year.

If you would like to provide consent for Henry County Schools to disclose directory information from your child's education records to military recruiters and both private and public institutions of higher education, you must notify the District in writing. Henry County Schools has designated the following information as directory information. [Note: an LEA may, but does not have to, include all the information listed below.]

- Student's name
- Participation in officially recognized activities and sports
- Address
- Telephone listing
- Weight and height of members of athletic teams
- Electronic mail address
- Photograph
- Degrees, honors, and awards received
- Date and place of birth
- Major field of study
- Dates of attendance
- Grade level
- The most recent educational agency or institution attended

#### **NOTIFICATION OF RIGHTS UNDER THE PROTECTION OF PUPIL RIGHTS AMENDMENT (PPRA)**

PPRA affords parents and students who are 18 or emancipated minors (eligible students") certain rights regarding our conduct of surveys, collection and use of information for marketing purposes, and certain physical exams. These include the right to:

*Consent* before students are required to submit to a survey that concerns one or more of the following protected areas ("protected information survey") if the survey is funded in whole or in part by a program of the U.S. Department of Education (ED) or sponsored/funded by sources other than the U. S. Department of Education-

1. Political affiliations or beliefs of the student or student's parent;
2. Mental or psychological problems of the student or student's family;
3. Sex behavior or attitudes;
4. Illegal, anti-social, self-incriminating, or demeaning behavior;
5. Critical appraisals of others with whom respondents have close family relations;
6. Legally recognized privileged relationships, such as with lawyers, doctors, or ministers;
7. Religious practices, affiliations, or beliefs of the student or parents; or
8. Income, other than as required by law to determine program eligibility.

*Receive notice and an opportunity to opt a student out of –*

1. Any other protected information survey, regardless of funding;
2. Any non-emergency, invasive physical exam or screening required as a condition of attendance, administered by the school or its agent, and not necessary to protect the immediate health and safety of a student, except for hearing, vision, or scoliosis screenings, or any physical exam or screening permitted or required under State law; and
3. Activities involving collection, disclosure, or use of personal information obtained from students for marketing or to sell or otherwise distribute the information to others.

*Inspect, upon request and before administration or use –*

1. Protected information surveys of students;
2. Instruments used to collect personal information from students for any of the above marketing, sales, or other distribution purposes; and
3. Instructional material used as part of the educational curriculum.

Henry County Schools has developed and adopted policies, regarding these rights, as well as arrangements to protect student privacy in the administration of protected surveys and the collection, disclosure, or use of personal information for marketing, sales, or other distribution purposes. **Henry County Schools will directly notify parents and eligible**

**students of these policies at least annually at the start of each school year** and after any substantive changes. Henry County Schools will also directly notify parents and eligible students at least annually at the start of each school year of the specific or approximate dates of the following activities and provide an opportunity to opt a student out of participating in:

- Collection, disclosure, or use of personal information for marketing, sales, or other distribution.
- Administration of any protected information survey not funded in whole or in part by ED.
- Any non-emergency, invasive physical examination or screening as described above.

*Parents/eligible students who believe their rights have been violated may file a complaint with:*

**Family Policy Compliance Office  
U. S. Department of Education  
400 Maryland Avenue, SW  
Washington, D.C. 20202**